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COVID-19 UPDATE

 **March 10, 2020**

The Santa Barbara Unified School District continues to closely monitor new developments related to the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in collaboration with our expert partner agencies.

Today, SB Unified school district leaders met with representatives from the Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO); institutes of higher learning from throughout Santa Barbara; the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management (SBCOEM); the Santa Barbara Public Health Department, as well as with superintendents from school districts across the county.

County Public Health officials reiterated today that there is no reason for K-12 schools to close at this time. Some institutions of higher learning and independent schools have decided or are considering, on their own, to move to online learning or to close their campuses.

To date, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Santa Barbara County. K-12 public schools in Santa Barbara County will continue to follow the recommendations of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the county Department of Public Health. We will continue to work closely with our community partners to evaluate conditions which might lead to the need for a closure.

We will also continue to implement measures suggested by the county Department of Public Health, such as disinfecting commonly shared surfaces, encouraging hand washing, providing hand sanitizer where there is no sink and soap, and reminding everyone to cover their coughs and stay home when sick (fever, vomiting or diarrhea, severe aches and pains, and/or coughing that won't stop.)

District officials are also reviewing all calendared school field trips and recommending – in some cases- cancellation or rescheduling.

As we learn more, we will continue to communicate all updates with our families and staff though our website, Parentsquare and other communication channels.

Thank you for your concern for our community's health and safety.

Sincerely,

Cary Matsuoka

Santa Barbara Unified School District

Susan C. Salcido

Superintendent County Superintendent of Schools

RESOURCES:

[Santa Barbara County Public Health Department Coronavirus website](#)

Santa Barbara County Public Health Hotline: 805-681-4373 (recorded information in English and Spanish)

[Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#)

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The Governing Board prohibits sexual harassment of district employees and students. The Board also prohibits retaliatory behavior or action against any person who reports, files a complaint or testifies about, or otherwise supports a complainant in alleging sexual harassment.

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